

education. The authors emphasize that the most critical therapeutic pitfall is misinterpretation of infection as an exacerbation of underlying SLE, leading to an increase in the dose of anti-inflammatory agents, which in turn decreases resistance to infection. They rightfully emphasize that the dermatologic aspects of the disease frequently are more important to the patient than the physician realizes.

Though well written, some statements are made with which this reviewer disagrees. Alopecia is said to occur soon after initiation of corticosteroid therapy, and is said to be due to a combination of drug and disease. There is no evidence that steroids increase the hair loss. The authors persistently discuss the skin "rash" of SLE without using a more specific term. On page 30 they state that the "rash" is most commonly generalized, erythematous, telangiectatic, and occasionally pruritic. In our experience a telangiectatic, generalized rash rarely occurs in LE. On page 31 the authors state that fixed drug eruptions in LE are very common. This is the wrong usage of the term fixed drug eruption. On page 45 the authors state that biologic false positive reactions for syphilis have always shown a low titer for VDRL. There are many exceptions noted in the literature. In the section on sun exposure the authors' management philosophy is different than most. They state that avoidance of sun is usually unnecessary and that they have patients happily living the summer beach life in California, even as lifeguards. We would argue that patients accept moderation and utilize common sense in relationship to the sun. The theoretical possibility of liberating ultraviolet-altered DNA and the not infrequent exacerbation of LE following sun exposure makes extensive exposure unwise. Certainly one of the common errors in the management of this disease is to unduly frighten the patient about minimal sun exposure. However, we would still suggest that the patient be neither a "mole" nor a lifeguard.

In summary, Fries and Holman have written an excellent text on SLE which easily can be read in a few hours and which provides a companion piece for the definitive text by E. L. Dubois, *Lupus Erythematosus* (1974). They are to be congratulated for their attempt to apply computer science to the clinical management of a complex multisystem disease. Whether this approach will stand the test of time remains to be seen. In the final analysis each patient with SLE is different from every other.

I would highly recommend this monograph on systemic lupus erythematosus. It is brief and the reader is rewarded with numerous clinical pearls. The authors have obviously managed the patients

with whom they come in contact with wisdom and compassion.

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TALC/ Medical Teaching Slides, Institute of Child Health, London, England.

The Foundation for Teaching Aids at Low Cost (TALC) provides teaching aids at or below cost price for health workers. The object of this service is to help raise standards of health care, particularly in developing countries. The Foundation is a self-supporting, nonprofit organization and represents a teaching activity of the Institute of Child Health of the University of London, 30 Guilford Street, London, WC1N 1EH.

Selling slides to assist in learning is the major activity of TALC. Twenty-six sets of color slides are available, each set with 24 slides and a script. They are available as premounted sets or mounted one set per clear plastic sheet. Cassettes are also available.

Six sets were reviewed:

Common Skin Diseases in Children in the Tropics (Sk). The pace of the author goes into no diagnostic techniques and this would certainly have relevance only to individuals in the health professions who are going to economically deprived areas in the tropics. This set is appropriate for health workers at all levels—nurses, technicians, physicians. The question and answer section in many of the sets would be more effective if integrated with the narrative. Some of the pictures should be better. The treatment for impetigo as outlined in the narrative is not up to modern standards and the need for systemic antibiotics is not stressed. The common complications of glomerulonephritis are not named but less common complications such as osteomyelitis and septicemia are mentioned.

Skin Diseases in Children in Temperate Climates (SkT). In this set, the questions and answers do go along with the narrative, which I think is a better format. I think that this set would be appropriate for physicians only. Again, I would quarrel with the quality as well as the diagnosis of some of the clinical photographs.

Smallpox in Children (SpC). This is basically an excellent section. Fortunately, smallpox is quite uncommon and is not seen in the United States. The slides are of excellent quality and the range of smallpox is demonstrated very nicely. The narrative that accompanies the slides is excellent as well. Since recent opinion is that smallpox is soon to disappear, I would doubt the future value of this set.

Leprosy in Children (Lp). The title is not entirely accurate since this set really deals with leprosy in all ages with some emphasis on pediatrics. This is an excellent although superficial review. By and large, the slides are good and accurately depict the lesions of leprosy. The narrative that accompanies this set is quite good.

Leprosy Classification (LpCn). The technical quality of the photographs is not as high as those in the *Leprosy in Children* set. It does accurately review the classification of leprosy. As one must start some place in acquiring that experience I think this would be a good place to start, but it is not possible for anybody to spend 30 minutes working on these classifications and then be able to easily classify leprosy. This again presupposes a basic working knowledge of leprosy and would be of interest primarily to physicians who work with leprosy or expect to be exposed to this disease.

Severe Measles (Ms). This set talks about a form of measles rarely seen in the United States or most of Europe. A number of the slides are of rather poor technical quality. I think that this set would be suitable for medical and nursing students as well as nurses and physicians who expect to be in an area where this disease is endemic.

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Clinical Photographs of Dermatoses in Nigeria,
35-mm Teaching Slide Set, Armed Forces
Institute of Pathology Medical Illustration
Service, Washington, D. C.

This is a collection of 133 35-mm transparencies accompanied by a list of diagnoses for each. However, it lacks annotation of the clinical history. The diseases presented are of two categories: 1. Tropical Dermatoses as seen in Africa, and 2. Dermatological Diseases in patients with black skin. Diseases included are infections such as yaws, herpes zoster, leprosy, cutaneous tuberculosis, dermatophyte infections, onchocerciasis; tumors, including malignant melanoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, squamous cell carcinoma; and dermatologic entities occurring in black skin, such as lichen planus, eczematous dermatitis, pemphigus, vitiligo, and discoid lupus erythematosus. In general, the quality of the slides is fair-to-good, but the red color hues, which should be present in the inflammatory lesions, are lost in these reproduced slides.

Dermatologists who would like the opportunity to see dermatologic disease in black skin would find this information valuable. The collection can be borrowed from the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, free of charge. It can alternatively be purchased for \$90.00 which makes the price approximately \$.70 per slide, a good buy. Purchase of

such a collection would seem fitting mainly for lecture purposes at a medical school facility.

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Bowen's Disease, Lantern Slide Teaching Set,
Armed Forced Institute of Pathology Medical
Illustration Service, Washington, D. C.

The information contained in this collection of 67 35-mm slides was originally presented as a Scientific Exhibit at the 1959 American Academy of Dermatology meeting and as an article entitled "Bowen's Disease and Its Relationship to Systemic Cancer" (*Arch Dermatol* 83:738-758, 1971). The first 17 slides review the morphology, histology, and distribution of lesions as well as the epidemiology of the disease, survival rates, and effectiveness of different therapeutic modalities. The incidence and types of various premalignant and malignant cutaneous lesions in patients with Bowen's disease are depicted in the next 18 slides. The last 34 slides support the authors' observations that Bowen's disease is associated with systemic malignancy. This slide set might be useful in preparing a lecture for a group of residents, internists, dermatologists, or pathologists (an individual could review the material more easily from the article in *Archives of Dermatology*), but such a lecturer should be aware that in another large series of Danish patients with Bowen's disease, no association with internal malignancy was observed (*Arch Dermatol* 108:367-370, 1973) and that this important question remains unsettled.

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Pathology of the Oral Cavity. Schering Corpora-
tion, Kenilworth, New Jersey.

This series of twenty 2 × 2 color transparencies is meant to be used as a brief review of diseases and lesions of the mouth. It is, of course, extremely difficult to present as broad a field as oral pathology in 20 slides. The subject matter includes development malformations (tongue-tie, lingual thyroid), bullous diseases (pemphigus), benign tumors (fibroma, hemangioma, lymphangioma, lipoma, papilloma), malignant tumors (epidermoid carcinoma, adenocarcinoma, myxosarcoma), and several other entities.

The slides are of poor quality, particularly with respect to accuracy of color reproduction. The labels of the slides have a number of minor typographical errors. Several entities are represented by a poor choice of illustrative material. The absence of an explanatory text makes the slides relatively useless as a learning aid or even as a review of the subject. The suggestion that one